

St. Louis' Top Openings

2005-2007

St. Louis is projected to have more than 76,000 job openings by 2007. During this time, the 20 occupations with the most projected total openings in St. Louis include four food preparation and serving occupations, four office and administrative occupations, and three that are sales and related occupations. Job openings are classified as "Growth" or "Replacement" openings. Growth openings are new jobs that are added to the economy, while replacement openings are vacancies created by worker mobility or retirements, but are not new jobs.

Retail Salespersons are projected to have the most openings from 2005 to 2007 in St. Louis, with almost 75 percent of openings projected to be replacements. This occupation has a Grade B due to high job growth and moderately competitive wages. Accountants and Auditors have fewer total openings, split between both growth and replacements, but has a higher grade designation. The combination of above average total openings, fast growth and higher than average wages for Accountants and Auditors merit its Grade A+ career outlook. Overall, twelve of the 20 fastest growing occupations have a Grade A or B outlook in terms of having above average openings, growth and wages for the St. Louis region.

SOC	Occupation Title	2005 Estimated Employment	2007 Projected Employment	Total Openings	Openings Due to Growth	Openings Due to Replacements	Average Annual Wage	Career Grade
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	37,460	38,490	4,050	1,033	3,017	\$23,860	B
41-2011	Cashiers	27,960	27,780	3,617	0	3,617	\$18,340	D
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	21,540	22,040	3,013	496	2,517	\$15,980	C
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Incl. Fast Food	21,130	21,660	2,833	530	2,303	\$16,030	C
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	31,430	31,820	1,788	391	1,397	\$24,660	B-
29-1111	Registered Nurses	22,370	23,230	1,687	859	828	\$49,940	A
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	21,860	22,580	1,543	720	823	\$19,100	C+
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	15,720	15,850	1,309	127	1,182	\$25,000	D
47-2031	Carpenters	16,840	17,610	1,262	768	494	\$48,930	A+
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	19,460	20,100	1,206	645	561	\$29,600	B
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Mfg, Except Tech & Scientific	13,250	13,600	1,037	351	686	\$60,180	A+
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	10,320	10,090	1,031	0	1,031	\$23,580	D
35-3022	Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, & Coffee Shop	3,860	3,970	919	107	812	\$16,400	C+
39-9011	Child Care Workers	9,110	9,470	895	365	530	\$17,340	C+
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	13,050	13,430	834	380	454	\$58,890	A+
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	7,590	7,770	786	183	603	\$21,240	B-
43-3071	Tellers	5,600	5,750	780	144	636	\$24,180	B-
51-2092	Team Assemblers	14,510	14,440	741	0	741	\$33,360	B-
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	9,760	10,060	687	307	380	\$40,880	A-
31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	14,220	14,550	662	325	337	\$21,130	B-

Data Sources: MERIC Short-term Occupational Projections, MERIC Occupational Employment and Wage Survey and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Career Grades are assigned by analyzing an occupation's percent change, total openings and average wage relative to all other occupations in St. Louis. An occupation's combination of scores on these three factors determines its grade.